

Serial No.: 09/847,869
Response to OA of 12/27/04

Remarks

The Office Action objected to the specification under § 112, objected to claim 1-30 for informalities, and rejected claims 1-13 and 26-30 under § 112. Applicants disagree with these rejections. However, in order to reduce the number of disputes and put this application in a condition for allowance, Applicants amend the specification and claims as noted below. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

I. Specification: 35 USC § 112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejects the specification under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, for not using terms that are clear, concise, and exact. Applicants amend the specification in numerous locations to remove the phrase "may be."

In light of the amendments, Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

II. Claim Objections:

Claims 1-30 are rejected for numerous informalities. In light of the amendments, Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to withdraw the objections.

Claims 1, 8, and 26 are amended to recite a "computer employed" method. Support for this amendment is directly in the specification: "A variety of hardware systems including general purpose computer systems and specialized systems are employed" (See Page 12 of original specification).

Claims 4, 8, 10, 16, 20, 22, 26, and 28, are amended to add the term "and" as requested.

III. Claims Rejection: 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph

I. Claims 1-7 & 26-30

Claims 1-7 and 26-30 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps. The Office Action states that the omitted step is: "determining the genome representation." Applicants respectfully traverse.

Serial No.: 09/847,869
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Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 does indeed recite "determining the genome representation." Claim 1 is reproduced below (emphasis added):

1. A computer employed method for evolving a graphs structure comprising **determining a genome representation** for evolving a set of weights for a set of arcs in the graph structure such that the arcs that participate in a substructure of the graph structure are in a close proximity in the genome representation.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 26 does indeed recite "determining the genome representation." Claim 26 is reproduced below (emphasis added):

26. A computer employed method for designing a neural network, comprising: **determining a genome representation** for a set of weights for a graph structure representing the neural network such that a set of arcs of the graph structure that participate in a substructure of the graph structure are in a close proximity in the genome representation; and
evolving the weights using the genome representation.

II. Claims 8-13

Claims 8-13 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps. The Office Action states that the omitted step is: "deriving the genome representation."

Applicants amend claim 8 to move a limitation in the preamble into the body. The body of claim 8 now recites: "deriving a genome representation for evolving a set of weights in a graph structure."

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants sincerely thank the Examiner for allowing claims 14, 15, and 19.

Serial No.: 09/847,869
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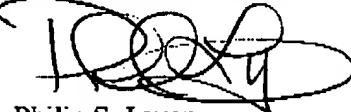
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants believe all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. (281) 514-8236, Facsimile No. (281) 514-8332. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number 703-872-9306 on this 28th day of March, 2005.

By Be Henry
Name: Be Henry